

1 5. Working with Nevada Connections Academy, my daughter will be advancing to
2 12th grade in the coming year and graduating on time. It is very important to our family and my
3 daughter that she graduate on-time if at all possible. If this school closes or there is interference
4 with the school's operations, I am concerned this will eliminate my daughter's best option and
5 our school of choice for her. I believe that closure or interference with Nevada Connections
6 Academy's operations would cause me, my daughter and other students and families in our state
7 irreparable harm by eliminating choice and a critical option that is the only viable option for
8 many of our children to receive their education.
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10 6. Since attending NCA, not only has my daughter caught up to her graduation track,
11 but I have also watched her blossom as a person. Her anxiety and social phobia are now under
12 control. Whereas she once refused to leave the house or make phone calls, she now looks
13 forward to leaving the house and wants to interact with the public and make all her own therapy
14 appointments. Her self-confidence is back to the point where she has maintained a healthy
15 weight and she is not self-conscious and stress eating. Most amazingly, my daughter is now
16 interested in exploring careers and dabbling in activities like photography and fashion design.
17 She is no longer limiting herself. She has embraced her new environment, and hopes to stay in
18 Nevada for college. We both credit these dramatic changes to the fact that NCA has taken her
19 out of the position where she is susceptible to bullying, and has instead given her access to peers
20 and personnel who are accepting and easy to talk to. The teachers are available whenever she
21 needs them and she finally feels comfortable talking to them, whereas at her old school she was
22 afraid to speak up for fear of being bullied. Because school is now inviting instead of
23 intimidating, she meets every day with enthusiasm instead of dread.
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7. As a parent, I am able to go online every day to review all of my daughter's work and make sure she has completed her assignments. I value this involvement because it has really opened my eyes to how she is doing and I have found out she is a fabulous writer.

8. I ask that the Authority consider what it will mean to so many families if NCA isn't there—many kids would drop out because they can't handle the pressure of bullying at other schools. Even though schools say they have zero tolerance for bullying, that is not always the case. NCA is the only school where we have found a truly welcoming environment.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and corrected and was executed this 7 day of June, 2017, in Las Vegas Nevada.


ALEXANDRA M. CASTILLO